FIFTEEN MINUTES

Inſtructions

To EVERY ONE who wiſhes for a THOROUGH CURE

OF THE

VENEREAL DISEASE

In any of its STAGES.

WITH

FULL DIRECTIONS for the Preparation of the Neceſſary REMEDIES.

AND

An APPENDIX, containing ſome Reflexions on the NATURE of that DISORDER.

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INTRODUCTION.

WHAT the Author advances in the following ſheets, is the reſult of his experience: The rules laid down, are thoſe which he ſtrictly follows in his daily practice; and they reſult, not ſolely from his own experi-

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ence, but alſo from that of the moſt eminent and experienced Practitioners in this branch of his buſineſs. The proper uſe of the Remedies which he propoſes will enſure a thorough and laſting cure, inſtead of haſtily patching up the ſymptoms which will break out again in a ſhort time, —the uſual conſequence of the quackiſh medicines taken for this diſorder.

Bedford-Street,
Covent-Garden.

FIFTEEN MINUTES INSTRUCTIONS, &c.

THE Venereal Diſeaſe, which admits of a ſpeedy and certain cure, in ordinary conſtitutions, is frequently rendered tedious and deſtructive by the two following circumſtances:

THE patient, from a want of ſelf-command, from a deſire to conceal

his ailment, or from an opinion that it is ſlight and of no conſequence, *will not* pay the requiſite attention to regimen and medicines; or, from the narrowneſs of his circumſtances, *cannot*.

PHYSICAL people are too tender of enjoining the proper regimen, and of puſhing the uſe of mercury in a proper manner, and to a proper length.

A RUNNING, unattended with any ſore or ſwelling, and cured within four weeks from the time of its firſt appearing, is the only circumſtance of this diſeaſe in which the conſtitution is certainly ſecured, without the uſe

uſe of mercury, from any danger of venereal infection remaining.

A Running, continued beyond four weeks, ſwellings of the foreſkin, ſwelled teſticles, and warts, are, for the moſt part, ſymptoms which indicate that the infection has entered into the conſtitution.

Buboes in any ſhape, ſores on any part of the body, ſcabs and ſpots on the ſkin, pains and ſwellings of the bones, head-achs, deafneſs, and ſore eyes, when ſuppoſed to proceed from a venereal cauſe, are univerſally allowed to be certain marks that the conſtitution is infected.

THE only *certain* means of deſtroying the venereal infection, when it has entered into the conſtitution, is that of rubbing into the ſkin a certain quantity of quickſilver, properly prepared in the form of ointment; and in this way alone, you can tell, to a few grains, how much quickſilver has entered into your body.

THE different circumſtances of this diſeaſe require the following varieties of regimen and remedies:

FROM the firſt appearance, till the diſeaſe has entirely left the private parts and groins, you are to keep the teſticles conſtantly ſupported by a proper

proper bandage, termed a ſuſpenſory, which a ſurgeon can furniſh for two ſhillings, or half-a-crown.

REGIMEN, No. I.

WARM cloathing; to avoid cold and wet carefully; to abſtain from exceſſive bodily exerciſe, from ſalted, high-ſeaſoned and heavy meats; to drink malt liquors, wine, or ſpirits, within the rules of ſobriety; and in other reſpects, to continue your ordinary way of living.

REGIMEN, No. II.

REPOSE, and confinement within doors; to diminiſh a little your uſual quan-

quantity of animal food; to drink no more than half a pint of ſtrong beer, three glaſſes of wine or punch in the day; and this only, on ſuppoſition that you are daily accuſtomed to it.

REGIMEN, No. III.

LYING in bed; an entire abſtinence from ſtrong beer, wine, ſpirits, and every thing that is ſtronger than weak broth, panada, water-gruel, tea, or ſmall beer; and procuring two motions in the twenty-four hours, by cooling phyſic.

REMEDIES, No. IV.

SUCH a doſe of cooling phyſic, taken every *other* day, as will give two or three motions.

REMEDIES, No. V.

SUCH a doſe of cooling phyſic, taken every *third* day, as will give two or three motions.

REMEDIES, No. VI.

THE uſe of *eight* pots of the mercurial ointment; one pot being uſed in a week at twice, joined with two doſes of the moſt gentle phyſic; each doſe

doſe to be taken on the ſecond day after uſing the ointment.

REMEDIES, No. VII.

THE uſe of *ten* pots of the mercurial ointment, without any phyſic: one pot is to be uſed in the courſe of the week, at three times; and, during the laſt fortnight, you are to drink, every day, a quart of ſarſaparilla decoction.

REMEDIES, No. VIII.

THE uſe of *twelve* pots of the mercurial ointment, in the ſame manner as in Number VII.; and a quart of ſarſa-

ſarſaparilla decoction every day, for the laſt four weeks.

A RUNNING, which has continued, (under whatever treatment,) more than four weeks, being ſtill of a yellow or green colour, or of the colour of matter, and attended with a greater or leſs heat of urine, is to be treated with Regimen No. I. and Remedies No. VI.

A SWELLING of the foreſkin over the nut, ſo that it cannot be drawn back, termed a Phymoſis; and a ſwelling of the ſame behind the nut, ſo that it cannot be brought forward, termed a Paraphymoſis, are, as ſoon

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as the ſwelling and inflammation are abated, by the means to be afterwards mentioned, to be treated with Regimen No. I. and Remedies No. VI.

A SWELLED teſticle requires Regimen No. III. ſtrictly followed, along with ſome other means, to be afterwards directed, till the inflammation and pain are gone; after which, you are to put yourſelf on Regimen No. I. and Remedies No. VII. taking hemlock pills daily, in a proper doſe, till the hardneſs remaining in the teſticle be entirely removed.

WARTS, by which I mean any excreſcence about the nut, or foreſkin, you

you are to treat with Regimen No. I. and Remedies No. VII. eating down the warts with cauſtic, as faſt as they grow up.

HARD ſwellings in the groin, termed buboes, you muſt encourage to come to a gathering of matter, by covering them with gum-plaiſter, and continuing your ordinary way of living; and as ſoon as the bubo breaks, or is opened, you are to put yourſelf on Regimen No. I. and Remedies No. VII.

IF your bubo remains without pain and redneſs, and ſhews no diſpoſition to come to a gathering of matter, you are,

are, in that caſe, to neglect it entirely, and put yourſelf on Regimen No. I. and Remedies No. VII. joined with the hemlock pills; under which treatment, the bubo will generally diſappear; if, on the contrary, it comes to matter, and breaks near the end of the courſe, you muſt uſe three pots more of the mercurial ointment.

SORES any where about the private parts, require Regimen No. I. and Remedies No. VII.

SORES on any other part of the ſkin, ſores in the throat and noſe, ſpots and ſcabs on the ſkin, pains and ſwellings of the bones, head-ach, deafneſs,

deafneſs, and ſore eyes, are to be treated with Regimen, No. I. and Remedies, No. VIII.

It ſeldom happens, that any of the above ſymptoms occur ſingly; on the contrary, ſeveral of them generally appear together: you are always, therefore, to purſue the Regimen and Remedies directed for the moſt virulent of your ſymptoms; for which purpoſe, you will pleaſe to obſerve, that thoſe ſymptoms I have ſet down above, according to their different degrees of virulence, beginning with the mildeſt, and ending with the worſt: For inſtance, a phymoſis is generally attended with ſores or warts

about the nut or foreſkin; in which caſe, as ſoon as the phymoſis is abated, you muſt purſue the Regimen and Remedies directed for warts and ſores about the private parts, and not thoſe for a ſimple phymoſis.

A FRESH contracted Running may generally be cured by Reg. No. I. and Rem. No. IV. purſued for a fortnight; and the ſame Reg. and Rem. No. V. purſued for another fortnight. During this courſe, you are to foment the yard twice a day, by ſoaking it, for 15 minutes at a time, in the fomenting liquor afterwards directed, a little warm; and carefully to waſh, two or three times a day, the nut, and inſide

of

of the foreſkin. If the running be accompanied by great pain in the yard, much cordee, or violent heat of urine, you muſt purſue Regimen No. II. with Remedies No. IV. till theſe ſymptoms abate; loſe blood, more or leſs, according to your conſtitution, and the violence of the ſymptoms; and procure reſt, by the proper uſe of laudanum.

If, after this courſe, though the bad colour be gone, and the quantity of the running much diminiſhed, there ſtill remain a diſcharge of a clear, colourleſs fluid, attended with little or no heat of urine, you muſt ſtop it, by taking Peruvian bark, and balſam capivi.

If a bad running, which has been treated with Remedies No. VI. continue after that courſe is finiſhed, you need not heſitate to ſtop it with bark, balſam capivi, and drying injections: for the mercury which you have thrown into your body, ſecures you from any danger of infection remaining. If the diſcharge cannot be ſtopt even by theſe means, the paſſage muſt be examined with a bougie, the uſe of which will remove any obſtruction formed there, and the running along with it.

A PHYMOSIS and paraphymoſis require the uſe of Regimen No. II. joined with Remedies No. IV. fomentation

mentation three or four times a day, with the fomenting liquor a little warm, and a bread poultice, with thirty grains of ſugar of lead powdered and mixed in it, applied to the ſwelling during the night: bleeding muſt alſo be uſed, according to your conſtitution; and if, notwithſtanding theſe applications, the tightneſs, ſwelling, and pain continue in a violent degree, you muſt ſubmit to have the foreſkin properly cut.

SWELLED teſticles, with inflammation and pain, beſides Regimen No. III. cloſely followed, require bleeding, and fomentation ſeveral times a day, for half an hour at a time, with

the fomenting liquor cold, to be purſued till the inflammation and pain are gone; after which, they are to be covered with a hemlock plaiſter, till all hardneſs and ſwelling have diſappeared.—I adviſe all venereal ſores whatever to be dreſſed with common baſilicon.

During the uſe of the mercurial ointment, particularly in cold weather, your mouth will be affected. As ſoon as you feel your mouth, gums, and teeth painful, and an inclination to ſpit frequently, you muſt omit its uſe till theſe ſymptoms have a little abated; after which you are to purſue the courſe, uſing or omitting the ointment, as your mouth permits you.

It muſt alſo be omitted, if any feveriſh diſorder happens during the courſe, till that is abated: but otherwiſe, the leſs it is interrupted, the good effects are ſo much the more certain.

If your conſtitution has a diſpoſition to the true ſea-ſcurvy, which affects people who have been for ſome time confined to ſalted or bad proviſions, or been lately much expoſed to hardſhip, whether from fatigue, or inclemency of weather; or, if you have the king's-evil in your conſtitution, a very ſmall quantity of the mercurial ointment will throw you ſuddenly into a violent ſalivation: you muſt, therefore, before its uſe,

and along with it, have your conſtitution rectified by the remedies proper for thoſe diſeaſes.

Sometimes venereal ſores, eſpecially thoſe made by buboes, will, inſtead of healing, grow worſe and worſe under the uſe of the ointment and ſarſaparilla: in this caſe, the eating of large quantities of ripe fruit will ſometimes occaſion a change to the better; and the ſores will always be healed by Peruvian bark, hemlock, and country air.

Lastly, I adviſe you, by no means to attempt a courſe of any of the Remedies above directed, particularly the

the uſe of the mercurial ointment, without procuring the ſuperintendance of ſome phyſical perſon.

THE *fomenting liquor* is made, by pouring a pint of rain, or, if it cannot be had, river-water, upon ſixty grains of ſugar of lead powdered, and ſhaking them together till it is diſſolved. This liquor will be ſpoilt, if put into a metal veſſel of any kind. Sixty grains of ſugar of lead powdered coſt one penny.

THE *ſarſaparilla decoction* is made, by boiling ſix ounces averdupois of ſarſaparilla root, cut and bruiſed, in one gallon of water to half a gallon.

Strain

Strain off the liquor while hot, and, when you drink it, ſhake up the ſediment. This decoction will not keep good above two days. The beſt ſarſaparilla may be bought ready cut, for five ſhillings the pound.

THE *mercurial ointment* is made of equal parts of lard and pure quickſilver, rubbed with a little turpentine, till none of the globules can be diſtinguiſhed with a common magnifying glaſs. This ointment, when carefully and thoroughly prepared, is worth one ſhilling the ounce. You are to deſire it to be put into pots containing, each, half an ounce troy of the ointment. It is to be uſed, by rubbing

bing the quantity directed very well into the ſkin of the inſide of the thighs, with a warm hand, about the time you go to bed.

THE turpentine on the firſt uſe of this ointment, frequently brings out a number of pimples: when this happens; it may be rubbed upon the outſide of the thighs, till the pimples are gone from the inſide: and the quickſilver ſhould be killed with as little turpentine as poſſible.

I NEED ſcarce tell you that it is of the utmoſt conſequence to have your medicines genuine and carefully prepared, and that the beſt preſcriptions will be unſucceſsful if not ſeconded by

by good medicines; and on that account adviſe you to procure them at a ſhop of credit; a quantity of the ointment above directed, when it is carefully prepared, will, on being rubbed into the ſkin, convey three times as much mercury into the body as an equal quantity of ſuch ointment prepared in a careleſs manner.

Most phyſical people are now poſſeſſed of means which almoſt certainly *prevent* Venereal Infection: and ſeveral Surgeons have an injection, which, applied on the firſt appearance of a Running, has, in ſeveral inſtances, removed the diſeaſe, without any farther trouble.

APPEN-

APPENDIX.

REFLEXIONS.

THE appearances in the human body, which go by the name of the Venereal Diſeaſe, may be properly enough diſtinguiſhed into two kinds, differing conſiderably in their nature.

ONE kind is, where the effects of the infection are confined to one part of the body, producing a diſeaſe there, which, like many others, has a certain progreſs and criſis; after which it gradually abates, till the body is entirely,

tirely freed from it: this has been moſt frequently called a *Clap*, and we have called it in the former part of this treatiſe, a ſimple Running, not attended with any ſore or ſwelling, and diſappearing within four weeks from the firſt infection: I will venture to ſay, that eight out of ten caſes, of this kind, will be cured by the powers inherent in the human conſtitution, without any aſſiſtance from medicine, provided that the patient will take the pains of obſerving a ſtrict regimen with regard to eating, drinking, and exerciſe, in order that the operations of Nature may not be obſtructed or diſturbed.

The other caſe is, where the venereal poiſon is ſo far from being con-

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fined to one part, that it is mixed with the general maſs of fluids, ſhewing its effects in every different part of the body; and this has been moſt frequently called the *Pox*.

In this laſt caſe, Nature makes not the ſmalleſt effort towards a cure; on the contrary, the diſeaſe is continually gaining ground, till checked by art, and ſhews more apparently the neceſſity and benefit of aſſiſtance from Medicine than any other diſeaſe to which the human body is liable.

It is ſaid, however, to have been growing gradually milder in its nature and ſymptoms from the time of its firſt appearance; at which period we are told that the venereal infection never produced in any caſe a Running,

ning, but univerſally a confirmed Pox, and that too, very rapid in its progreſs, and terribly deſtructive.

At the preſent time, it would ſeem that it makes a more rapid progreſs in ſome conſtitutions than in others; particularly when the venereal infection gets into a conſtitution diſpoſed to, or already affected with, a conſumption, it very readily fixes upon the lungs, and then proves inevitably fatal.

When the venereal infection has been allowed to remain in the body for ſome time, it would ſeem that it had corrupted the whole maſs of fluids in every part; or if we may be allowed that expreſſion, the whole body ſeems to be thoroughly drenched with it; in which caſe, an acciden-

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tal wound, or fracture of a bone, happening in any part, will not heal in the ordinary way, but will, on the contrary, degenerate into very bad ſpreading ſores, which will become daily larger and larger, till checked by mercury and ſarſaparilla.

In cold climates, and cold ſeaſons, the Venereal Diſeaſe is more ſevere in its ſymptoms, quicker in its progreſs, and more difficult to cure, *cæteris paribus*, than in warm ſeaſons and warm climates.

The parts of the body which are moſt expoſed to cold, are moſt liable to be attacked by the venereal poiſon; for inſtance, venereal ſores ſhow themſelves moſt frequently in the throat, face, and noſe, and the ſwellings of

the bones almoſt always happen in thoſe of the head, the collar bones and ſhins; in all which parts the bones are more ſlightly covered by ſkin and fleſh than in any other.

THE few individuals who have gone through a proper courſe of remedies in this country without ſucceſs, have been cured by continuing the uſe of the ſame remedies in a warmer climate, ſuch as Portugal.

ALTHOUGH this diſeaſe will not entirely yield to any courſe of remedies, except that of a conſiderable quantity of quickſilver thrown into the body, yet its particular ſymptoms are very moveable; that is to ſay, a venereal ſymptom may be readily driven from the part which it poſſeſſes, in order to

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fix upon ſome part at a conſiderable diſtance, and this by a ſlight mercurial preparation, outwardly applied.

UPON the above principle we have forbid the outward application of any mercurial preparation to a venereal ſore, or ſwelling; and the following facts concerning this part of the nature of the venereal diſeaſe are very univerſally known among Phyſical practitioners, *viz.* that when buboes are repelled by mercurial ointment rubbed into them, or mercurial plaiſters laid over them, ſores in the throat or noſe very commonly ſhew themſelves immediately after; that upon the receſſion of a phymoſis, or paraphymoſis, a bubo frequently makes its appearance; and that when a run-

ning is ſtopt by the too early uſe of improper injections, by violent exerciſe, or by a feveriſh diſorder happening to the patient, ſwellings of the teſticles, or buboes, are very commonly the conſequence.

PERSONS of that gloomy apprehenſive conſtitution termed Hypochondriac, who have been affected with the venereal diſeaſe, though they have been perfectly cured, are notwithſtanding very apt to imagine that every ſlight ailment which happens to them afterwards, proceeds from the remains of that diſeaſe ſtill lurking in their conſtitution.

VENEREAL infection may be communicated, not ſolely by the private parts, but alſo by the application of

venereal matter to any of thoſe parts of the body on which the covering of ſkin is thin, tender and moiſt, as on the lips, tongue, inſide of the mouth, inſide of the noſe, and inſide of the eye-lids; or by the application of the ſame to an accidental wound, or ſore, which happens to be on any part of the body.

When the diſcharge from a venereal ſore, or from the urinary paſſages in a Running, comes in contact with any of the parts abovementioned, and is ſuffered to remain there for ſome time, it either produces an inflammation and conſequent ſore in the part to which it is immediately applied, tainting at the ſame time the general maſs of fluids, or without

making any visible impression in that part, is sucked in by the vessels, and, in producing its effects in some more distant parts, shows that it has infected the general mass of fluids.

The effects that it produces on the urinary passage are different from both these just described; it seems there to produce an inflammation and consequent discharge of a considerable quantity of matter, without making any sore; and it is said that it sometimes produces the same sort of affection on some of the other soft tender parts; but this is a very rare occurrence.

Upon the above-mentioned principles we see that infants are infected by sucking a nurse who has venereal

ſores about her nipples; and in this caſe, the infection being communicated by the mouth, the bubo happens in the neck; and we alſo ſee that nurſes are infected by ſuckling a child who has a venereal ſore about its mouth; and as ſhe receives the infection about the nipple, the bubo is in the arm-pit.

FROM all this, the neceſſity of waſhing carefully the nut and foreſkin in a Running, and of waſhing carefully the hands after touching any venereal matter, is evident; and alſo that it is in the power of malicious perſons, to communicate this diſeaſe to thoſe about them, eſpecially their bed-fellows, without their being ſenſible of their danger.

THERE is, however, a good deal of difference among different perſons with regard to the aptneſs to catch venereal infection, which depends either upon ſome difference in the general conſtitution, or in the ſtate of the ſkin on the private parts: thus, of ſeveral perſons having connection with the ſame woman, one ſhall have only a mild running, eaſily cured, and another ſhall have a ſore, bubo, or other ſymptom of a confirmed pox, without having ſeen any running, or other previous warning of infection.

SOME perſons have had connection with infected women, and have entirely eſcaped from being infected; and this without their having uſed any particular precaution.

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THE ſame perſon may have connection with an infected woman at one time, and entirely eſcape, and at another time he ſhall be infected; ſtill ſuppoſing that no particular precaution has been uſed.

NO probable account can poſſibly be given why Mercury is ſo powerful in this diſeaſe above every other remedy. It cannot be ſaid to cure the diſeaſe by ſenſibly evacuating the noxious matter out of the body; for the cure takes place equally well, and even better when the mercury occaſions no ſenſible evacuation whatſoever, than when it does.

UNDER the uſe of mercury, in any ſhape, the body waſtes more or leſs, the ſtrength is leſſened, the gums

and

and teeth are more or leſs in pain, there is a bad taſte in the mouth, and a diſagreeable ſmell in the breath; gold and ſilver carried in the pocket, or worn upon any part of the body, are diſcoloured; the conſtitution is at the ſame time, rendered exceedingly open to the effects of cold; and in cold weather, if ſome care and attention be not paid to this circumſtance, the patient generally contracts rheumatic pains; or is ſeized with looſeneſs, attended with gripes, or, perhaps, is thrown into a ſalivation, which would otherwiſe have been avoided; but it has not been aſcertained upon any good ground that mercury, uſed in a proper manner, ever produces

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any permanent bad effects upon the conſtitution.

A SUPPOSITION has been unhappily entertained, that the mercury cured this diſeaſe by producing a ſalivation; and on this ſuppoſition, the patients have been kept, for weeks together, ſpitting prodigious quantities every day, with the inſide of the mouth in very great pain, and the tongue often ſo much ſwelled, as that it could not be drawn within the teeth, and during all this time lying in bed, under a great load of bed-cloaths, or confined in a cloſe room, heated with a great fire, and forbid every ſort of nouriſhment, except thin drinks, which were to be conſtantly poured into the ſtomach in great quantities;

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it is evident that ſuch treatment was ſufficient to hurt very much even a ſtrong conſtitution, ſuppoſing not a grain of mercury to have been uſed.

The conſequences of the above treatment have laid the foundation of the popular prejudices againſt mercury; and the circumſtance of ſeveral perſons having, by their negligence during a mercurial courſe, contracted pains in their limbs, which remained after the mercury was left off, has given riſe to a report that the mercury remains lurking in the bones ever after; but I have never been able to perceive that theſe pains are in any reſpect different from rheumatic pains proceeding from other cauſes.

It has been a great misfortune to many

many afflicted with this diſeaſe, that mercury does in many caſes heal up the ſores, and take away all the appearances of diſeaſe, without entirely rooting it out of the conſtitution, of which the conſequence is, that the cure being thought perfect, the uſe of the remedy is left off: from this time the remaining poiſon begins to gather force again, and ſhews itſelf ſooner or later, and the ſame courſe of remedy is again purſued, the ſame fault is again committed, and the ſame unhappy effects again follow: in this manner the diſeaſe goes on, alternately checked and gaining ground for perhaps ſeveral years, and at length very much impairs, or perhaps entirely ruins the conſtitution.

It has been equally unfortunate that the preparations of mercury, which tend rather to palliate than thoroughly cure the diſeaſe, are thoſe which admit of being exhibited in the forms the moſt elegant, and which are moſt agreeable to the patient.

From the ſenſible and apparent qualities of that inſipid ſubſtance ſarſaparilla root, nobody could poſſibly conceive that it has any great virtue as a remedy for diſorders of the human body, yet in many caſes of venereal diſeaſe, it is as eſſentially neceſſary as mercury, in order to compleat a cure. When the venereal poiſon has been ſuffered to exert its deſtructive influence upon the juices to a conſiderable degree, ſarſaparilla decoc-

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tion taken about the end of a mercurial courſe, is the moſt powerful medicine, which we know, for reſtoring the ſtrength of the body, and the natural qualities of the animal juices.

MOST people now know that *hemlock* is uſed inwardly with ſafety and advantage, under proper precautions. It has been found a moſt powerful medicine in diſſolving obſtinate ſwellings, and in allaying the pain and taking off the bad appearance of the moſt deſtructive and unmanageable ſores.

THERE is a moſt wonderful change frequently brought upon ſores by removing the patient from a great town into the country, which is, with probability, imputed to the air; but to whatever

whatever circumſtance it may be owing, certain it is, that a great many ſores, the conſequences of the worſt kinds of wounds and fractures, which could not be cured in the hoſpitals in London, have been healed ſurpriſingly ſoon when the patients were taken to the country.

THE preparations of *lead* are now allowed to be the moſt efficacious external application to inflammations, and are found to be attended with ſufficient ſafety.

THE END.